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United Nations Industrial Development Organization

ESCAP Regional Energy Development Programme (REDP)
Regional Network for Small Hydropower (RN-SHP)

Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
First Meeting

Hangzhou, China, 11 - 13 December 1984

Priority Subject Areas and Projects*

(Agenda item 5(b))

prepared by

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Priority subject areas and projects

At the Senior Expert Group, which met in Hangzhou/China in July 1982, considerations were given to subject areas and projects considered by the participants as high priority and of importance in the field of small-mini hydropower promotion, development and application. On the basis of such discussions, a matrix was prepared, after which a priority list was developed for R+D projects and areas of needs for building-up and strengthening human resource capacities among the member countries.

The recommendations of the Senior Expert Group were presented at the Third UNIDO Workshop on Small Hydropower which took place in Kuala Lumpur/Malaysia in March 1983. The Workshop considered the recommendations and endorsed the scope of the programme as the initial framework of activities to be undertaken by the RN-SHP.

The following are those subject areas identified:

a. Information exchange

b. Research and development

c. Human resources development

d. Local design and manufacture of small hydropower equipment

e. Advisory services.

Due to financial constraints, within the available funds from the REDP Phase-I (RAS/80/001) on the one hand, and the exhaustion of funds for the Hangzhou Regional Centre (HRC) under regional project RAS/80/033 on the other, it was possible to organize only one workshop in May 1983.

In order to support the co-operative efforts of the REDP Senior Co-ordinator through the slowly but steadily functioning RN-SHP, UNDP made an additional allocation of funds with which a Second Workshop was organized in September 1984 at the HRC Headquarters.

In view of the development of activities in the field of small-mini hydropower witnessed in the member countries, it was felt to be not only appropriate but necessary to update the priority list developed so that the RN-SHP may formulate a new work programme for 1985/86, which would be more accurately reflecting the priority needs.

On the basis of a questionnaire submitted to all ESCAP member countries, a survey is being carried out on this subject, and the results available will be presented for considerations and reference at the TAG meeting.

Meanwhile, the TAG-1 membership is covering most of the countries which are actively pursuing their small hydropower development programmes. It is therefore felt that a priority list developed at the TAG-1, would be reflecting quite accurately the priority subject areas and projects that might be taken up by the RN-SHP as their project activities during 1985/86 and beyond.

The priority list as developed and adopted by the TAG-1 is expected to be circulated to potential donor countries, agencies and organizations, for the purpose of seeking necessary financial support.